

The Zoning Ordinance for the Town of Fountain Hills

Chapter 6

SIGN REGULATIONS

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Section 6.01 Purpose.

These Sign Regulations are intended to encourage attractive signage for businesses and services, optimizing the availability of information, while promoting the general welfare by creating more aesthetically appealing Community.

Section 6.02 Definitions.

Definitions. The following definitions shall apply; interpretations of these definitions shall be the responsibility of the Community Development Director.

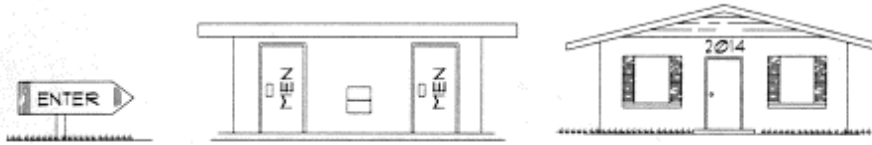
Abandoned Sign: A sign that is no longer associated with the location, product or activity conducted on the premises on which the sign is located.

Advertising Sign. A sign which includes any copy and/or graphics relating to any business, service, product, person, organization, place, or building in addition to simple identification, excluding directional information.

Directional Sign. A sign that does not contain either identification or advertising copy, but does contain other helpful information, including assisting in the flow of traffic.

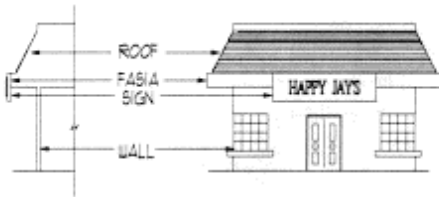
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Example of Directional Signs:



Directory Sign. A sign listing the names and/or uses, and/or locations of the various tenants or activities within a building, or in a multi-tenant development, but not for the purpose of advertising products, goods, or services.

Fascia Sign. A sign, which is permanently affixed to the horizontal member or surface at the edge of a projecting roof.



Freestanding Sign. A sign, which has its own supporting structure independent of the building or business, it identifies, or any product or service provided.

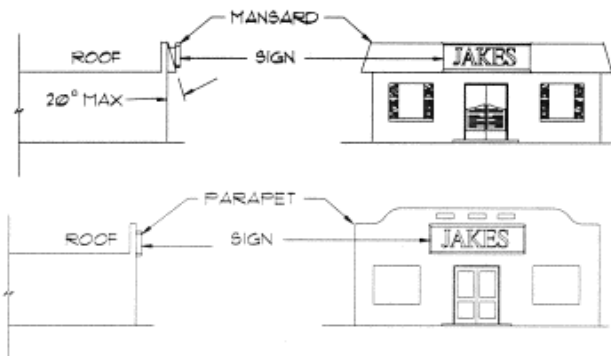
Fuel Price Sign. A sign displaying the price(s) of fuel at a service station.

Identification Sign. A sign, which contains only the name of the business, person, organization, place, service, product, or building at that location.

Ideological Sign. A sign which expresses, conveys, or advocates a non-commercial message.

Illuminated Sign. A sign which is lighted, either externally or internally.

Mansard & Parapet Signs. A sign permanently affixed to a wall or surface not more than 20 degrees from vertical at the upper edge of a building and running parallel with the mansard roof line or parapet upon which the sign is attached.



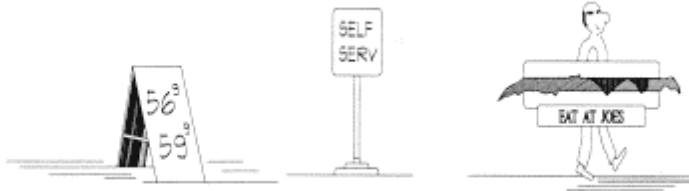
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Menu Board. A sign displaying the bill of fare of a drive-in or drive-through restaurant.

Political Sign. A sign which expresses a position, conveys a message concerning, or advocates a position on the candidacy of a person, party, or issue on an upcoming ballot.

Roof Sign. A sign affixed on, above, or over the roof of a building so that it projects above the roofline. The top of a parapet wall shall be considered the roofline. The highest point of a mansard roof shall be considered the roofline. Where a parapet wall is combined with a mansard roof, the roofline shall be the top of the parapet.

Sandwich Sign. A portable sign; one which is not permanently affixed to a structure or permanently ground-mounted.



Sign. Any device providing identification, advertising or directional information for a business, service, product, person, organization, place, or building. Included in this definition of signs are graphic devices such as logos and attention-attracting items such as banners or logo sculptures, and obtrusive colored fascia.

Wall-Mounted Sign. A sign which is fastened to any vertical portion of a building.

Window Sign. Any poster, cut-out letters, painted text or graphics, or other text or visual presentation affixed to, or placed within six (6) feet behind a window pane, and is placed to be read from the exterior of a building.

(6.02, Amended, 05/01/2003)

Section 6.03 General Regulations.

A. Sign areas shall be measured as follows:

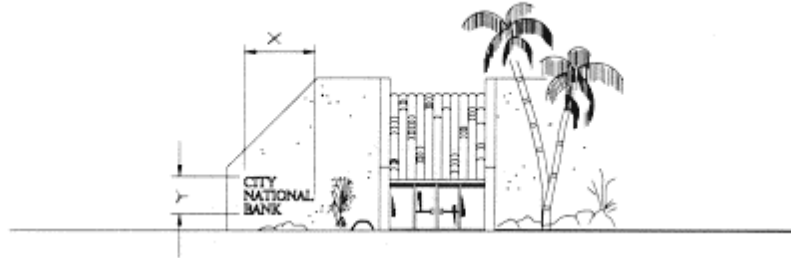
1. Sign copy mounted or painted on a background panel or area distinctively painted, textured or constructed. Sign area is the area within the outside dimensions of the background panel or surface.



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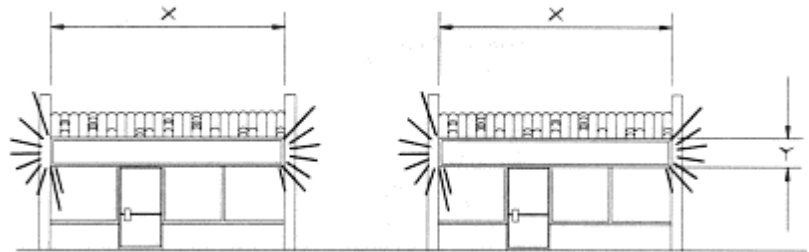
2. Sign copy consisting of individual letters and/or graphics affixed to a wall or portion of a building which has not been painted, textured, or otherwise altered to provide a distinctive background for the sign copy.

Sign area is the area within the smallest rectangle that will enclose the sign copy.



3. Sign copy mounted or painted on an internally illuminated sign or internally illuminated element of a building.

The entire internally illuminated surface or architectural element, which contains sign copy, will be counted as sign area.



4. Number of sign faces:

One -- Area of the single face only.

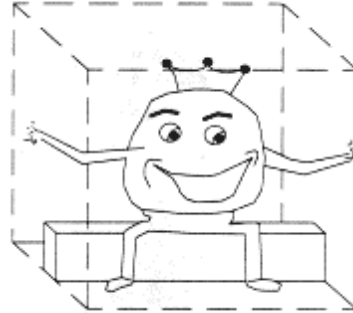
Two -- If the interior angle between the two sign faces is forty-five (45) degrees or less, the sign area is the area of one face only; if the angle exceeds forty-five (45) degrees, the sign area is the sum of the areas of the two faces.



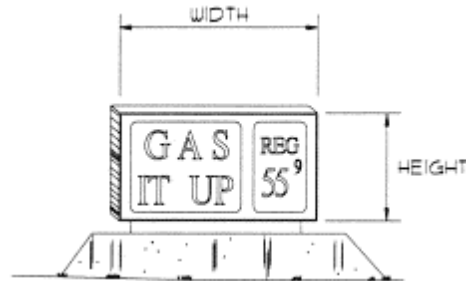
Three or more -- The sign area is the sum of areas of the three or more faces.

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Three dimensional, sculptural, or other non-planar signs -- Sign area will be the sum of the areas of the vertical faces of the smallest polyhedron that will encompass the sign structure.

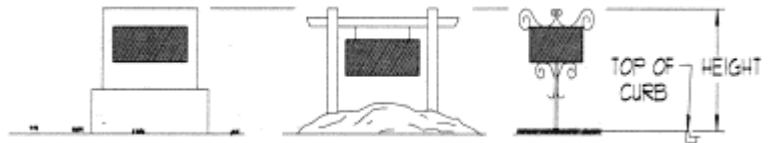


5. Sign area is the sum of the areas of all permitted signs, except directional signs, street addresses, or safety signs (e.g., stop engine, no smoking).
6. Signs having more than one component (e.g., a service station identification/price sign combination mounted on a common base) the sign area is the area of the rectangle enclosing the several components of the sign.



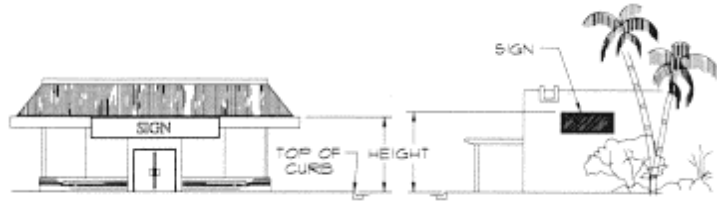
B. Sign height is defined as follows:

1. Free-standing sign: Sign height is the distance from the top of the sign structure to the top of curb nearest the sign, or to the crown of roadway if no curb exists.



2. Wall or Fascia Mounted Signs: Sign height is the distance from the top of the sign structure to the top of the curb nearest the sign or to the crown of the adjacent roadway if no curb exists, or grade of the building where significant grade separations from the road exists.

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3. No parapet sign may project more than three (3) feet above the roofline.
- C. Signs not specifically authorized herein are prohibited, including, but not limited to the following.
1. Sandwich signs except as otherwise provided (See temporary signs).
 2. Signs mounted, attached or painted on trailers, boats, or motor vehicles to serve as additional advertising signs on the premises.
 3. Awning signs except as otherwise provided for non-residential uses.
 4. Roof signs, or signs that project above the highest point of the roofline, parapet, or fascia of the building.
 5. Any sign emitting sound.
 6. Any sign with intermittent or flashing illumination, animated or moving signs.
 7. Any neon sign, except for the following:
 - a. Reverse pan-channel signs where neon tubing is used inside of three-sided solid metal letters to illuminate a wall on which the letters are attached, and in a manner that the illuminated neon tubing is not visible.
 - b. A neon sign that had been specifically permitted by the Town, as a part of a Town-issued sign or building permit, and that is maintained in strict conformance with Chapter 6 of *The Zoning Ordinance for the Town of Fountain Hills*.
- D. Whenever the name of a business changes, the signs on the premises shall be modified to bring them into conformance with these regulations, even though the intended change is a change of sign copy only. This paragraph shall not apply to directory signs designed with interchangeable letters or panels.
- E. Non-conforming freestanding signs, sign structures, poles and other related equipment that have been abandoned or not in use for more than twelve (12) months shall be removed.
- F. The source of a sign's illumination shall not be visible from any adjacent residential streets or neighborhoods.

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- G. No sign shall be erected or placed within any center median or any public sidewalk or bicycle path. The Town employees may remove any sign located in these areas. Directional signs owned by the Town of Fountain Hills shall be exempted from these regulations.
- H. When any window sign or signs are placed so as to attract the attention of persons outside the building where such signs are displayed, the total area of all such window signs shall not exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the total area of the windows through which they are visible.

(01-20, Amended, 12/27/2001)

Section 6.04 Signs Permitted For Residential Uses In The OSR, R-190, R1-43, R1-35, R1-35H, R1-18, R1-10, R1-10A, R1-8, R1-8A, R1-6, R1-6A, M-1, M-2, M-3, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-5, C-O, C-C, C-1, C-2, C-3, IND-1 and IND-2 Districts

In Accordance With The Following:

A. One and Two Family Dwellings.

- 1. Identification Signs: A sign not exceeding one (1) square foot in area, giving the name only of the land or building on which displayed, or of the owner or lessee thereof.
- 2. Temporary Signs (See Part 6.08 of this Section).
- 3. On-site Directional Signs: Not to exceed two (2) square feet in area and three (3) feet in height.

B. Multi-Family Dwellings.

- 1. All signs permitted in Part 6.04, A. One and Two Family Dwellings, above, of this Section.
- 2. Identification signs for apartments and condominium complexes and such uses in the Multi-Family Districts as follows:
 - a. A free-standing sign, not exceeding twenty-four (24) square feet in area. Such sign shall not exceed ten (10) feet in width or five (5) feet in height. Such sign must be located at least five (5) feet from any property line.
 - b. A wall-mounted sign, not exceeding twelve (12) square feet in area. Height of such sign shall not exceed ten (10) feet.

C. Subdivision. Permanent Subdivision Identification Signs for recorded Subdivisions in accordance with the following:

- 1. Maximum area of such sign to be 24 square feet with a maximum height of five (5) feet.
- 2. Such signs to be monument type; i.e., individually mounted letters on a free-

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standing wall.

3. Such signs shall be located in a landscaped area of at least two (2) square feet per each one (1) square foot of sign area.
4. There may not be any identification sign for subdivision less than ten (10) acres.
5. There may be one (1) identification sign for a subdivision that is at least ten (10) acres, but less than fifty (50) acres in size.
6. A subdivision that is at least fifty (50) or more acres in size may have two (2) subdivision identification signs.

Section 6.05 Master Planned Village Entry Signs

Master developer entryway signs shall be allowed for Master Planned Villages (MPV) with fifty (50) acres or more subject to staff approval of a comprehensive sign package. Such signs shall be limited to a maximum sign area of sixty (60) square feet per sign. No more than two (2) such signs per entrance may be allowed; however, the total number of such signs shall not exceed the total number of entrances to the Master Planned Village.

Section 6.06 Comprehensive Sign Plan

- A. A Comprehensive Sign Plan for a proposed or existing development may be approved by the Town Council with the granting of a Special Use Permit. The purpose of a Comprehensive Sign Plan is to provide for the establishment of signage criteria that are tailored to a specific development or location, and which may vary from specific Ordinance provisions. The intent is to provide for flexible sign criteria that promote superior design through architectural integration of the site, buildings and signs.
- B. A Comprehensive Sign Plan shall include the location, size, height, type of illumination, landscaping, time of placement and/ illumination, and orientation, of all proposed sign, either permanent or temporary.
- C. A Comprehensive Sign Plan containing elements which exceed the permitted height, area and number of signs specified in this ordinance, may be approved by the Town Council only upon finding that:
 1. The development site contains unique or distinctive, in terms of physical scale, topography, land use, architectural, or historical characteristics, which makes the development separate or distinguishing features that represent a clear variation from conventional development, e.g., a master planned village, a shopping center, or a planned unit development.
 2. The proposed signage incorporates special design features such as logos, emblems, murals, or statuary that are integrated with the site and building architecture.

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3. The proposed development must be at least forty (40) acres if it is a residential development and at least ten (10) acres if it is a non-residential development. If there is a mixture of residential and non-residential development, there must be at least forty (40) acres.

Section 6.07 Signs Permitted For Non-Residential Uses In The Following Districts

A. OSR, R-190, R1-43, R1-35, R1-35H, R1-18, R1-10, R1-10A, R1-8, R1-8A, R1-6, R1-6A, M-1, M-2, M-3, R-2, R-3, R-4, and R-5 Districts.

1. All signs permitted in Part 6.04, A. of this Section.
2. Civic organizations such as the Kiwanis, Rotary, Jaycees, etc., may be identified on group display structures in accordance with the following standards:
 - a. Such structures shall be on arterial streets.
 - b. Structures shall not be over six (6) feet in height or an area in excess of 60 square feet.
 - c. The signs shall not be illuminated.
 - d. Each civic organization shall be limited to a maximum area of two (2) square feet.
 - e. Exact location and design of the sign structure shall require approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
3. Identification signs displaying only the name of the building or tenant business with a total maximum sign area not exceeding twenty-four (24) square feet. Such signs may be wall-mounted with a maximum height of ten (10) feet, and/or, such signs may be freestanding according to the following:
 - a. One (1) free-standing identification sign shall be permitted with a maximum height of five (5) feet.
 - b. A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area to have a minimum area of four (4) square feet for each one square foot of sign area.
4. In addition to the above, each tenant may be allowed three (3) square feet of non-illuminated sign area, identifying their business to be located on the wall adjacent to the entry of the tenant's business.
5. In addition to the above, a directory with a maximum area of six (6) square feet and a maximum height of six (6) feet may be permitted behind the required front yard setback.

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B. C-O District.

1. Civic organization identification signs same as Part 6.07, A., 2. of this chapter.
2. Business signs shall be in accordance with the following regulations:
 - a. The total aggregate area of one (1) face of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed thirty-six (36) square feet. However, if the portion of the building adjacent to its lot's street-property line measures more than thirty-six (36) feet then the aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises may be increased in area to the rate of one (1) square foot of sign area for each foot of building frontage in excess of thirty-six (36) lineal feet; but the total aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet for each business. For corner buildings only the main entrance frontage shall be so measured.
 - b. Freestanding identification signs shall be counted as a portion of the total aggregate sign area of the premises and shall be restricted to the following:
 - (1) One (1) freestanding identification for each street upon which the lot has frontage.
 - (2) Such signs shall have a maximum area of twenty-four (24) square feet.
 - (3) Such signs shall have a maximum height of five (5) feet.
 - (4) Such signs shall not be closer than thirty (30) feet to any residential district.
 - (5) A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area to have a minimum area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.
 - c. For building complexes or centers, the regulations listed below in Part 6.07, D., 2. shall apply and preclude those listed heretofore. For purposes of this Section, a building complex or center shall mean any number of businesses greater than one whose buildings share the same site, using common points of ingress and egress to and from the site.

C. C-C and C-1 District.

1. Civic organization identification signs same as Part 6.07, A., 2. of this chapter.
2. Business signs shall be in accordance with the following regulations:
 - a. The total aggregate area of one (1) face of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed forty (40) square feet.

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However, if the portion of the building adjacent to its lot's street-property line measures more than forty (40) feet then the aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises may be increased in area to the rate of one (1) square foot of sign area for each foot of building frontage in excess of forty (40) lineal feet; but the total aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises shall not exceed eighty (80) square feet for each business. For corner buildings only the main entrance frontage shall be so measured.

- b. Freestanding identification signs shall be counted as a portion of the total aggregate sign area of the premises and shall be restricted to the following:
 - (1) One (1) freestanding identification for each street upon which the lot has frontage.
 - (2) Such signs shall have a maximum area of twenty-four (24) square feet.
 - (3) Such signs shall have a maximum height of five (5) feet.
 - (4) Such signs shall not be closer than thirty (30) feet to any residential district.
 - (5) A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area to have a minimum area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.
 - c. The signage in a building complex or center shall be contained in a Comprehensive Sign Plan according to Section 6.06, which will be approved by the Town of Fountain Hills Community Development Director or designee and conform to the sign regulations contained in this chapter. For purposes of this Section, a building complex or center shall mean any number of businesses greater than one whose buildings share the same site, using common points of ingress and egress to and from the site.
3. Fuel price signs, for service stations only, in accordance with the following:
- a. Maximum area shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet each and shall be counted in the total aggregate sign area of the premises as permitted above.
 - b. Maximum height shall not exceed five (5) feet.
 - c. One (1) freestanding price sign per each street frontage on which the service station has frontage.
 - d. A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage, at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.

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- e. The maximum sign area for freestanding signs per street frontage shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet including all identification and price signs.
- 4. Menu boards, for drive-in or drive-through restaurants, in accordance with the following:
 - a. One (1) freestanding or wall mounted menu board per business located not less than forty-five (45) feet from the street property line.
 - b. Maximum area shall not exceed twenty (20) square feet and shall be counted in the total aggregate sign area of the premises.
 - c. Maximum sign height shall not exceed five (5) feet for freestanding menu signs.
 - d. A landscaped area shall be provided, at the base of the free-standing sign with said landscaped area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.

D. C-2, C-3, IND-1 and IND-2 Districts.

- 1. Civic organization identification signs same as Part 6.07, A., 2. of this Section.
- 2. Business signs shall be in accordance with the following regulations:
 - a. The total aggregate area of one (1) face of all signs on the premises pertaining to any one (1) business shall not exceed fifty (50) square feet. However, if the portion of the building adjacent to its lot's street-property line measures more than fifty (50) feet then the aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises may be increased in area to the rate of one (1) square foot of sign area for each foot of building frontage in excess of fifty (50) lineal feet; but the total aggregate area of one face of all such signs on the premises shall not exceed One Hundred (100) square feet for each business. For corner buildings only the main entrance frontage shall be so measured.
 - b. Freestanding identification signs shall be counted as a portion of the total aggregate sign area of the premises and shall be restricted to the following:
 - (1) One (1) freestanding identification for each street upon which the lot has frontage.
 - (2) Such signs shall have a maximum area of twenty-four (24) square feet.
 - (3) Such signs shall have a maximum height of five (5) feet.
 - (4) Such signs shall not be closer than thirty (30) feet to any residential district.

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- (5) A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area to have a minimum area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.
- c. The signage in a building complex or center shall be contained in a Comprehensive Sign Plan according to Section 6.06, which will be approved by the Town of Fountain Hills Community Development Director or designee and conform to the sign regulations contained in this chapter. For purposes of this Section, a building complex or center shall mean any number of businesses greater than one whose buildings share the same site, using common points of ingress and egress to and from the site.
- d. Identification signs for building complexes or centers shall meet the following regulations:
 - (1) No more than one (1) sign per street frontage.
 - (2) The freestanding sign(s) shall be a part of the comprehensive sign package.
 - (3) The maximum height of any freestanding sign shall not exceed five (5) feet.
 - (4) Maximum sign size shall be twenty-four (24) square feet.
 - (5) A proposal for signing for the entire center shall be submitted prior to the issuance of any sign permit.
- 4. Fuel price signs, for service stations only, in accordance with the following:
 - a. Maximum area shall not exceed twelve (12) square feet each and shall be counted in the total aggregate sign area of the premises as permitted above.
 - b. Maximum height shall not exceed five (5) feet.
 - c. One (1) freestanding price sign per each street frontage on which the service station has frontage.
 - d. A landscaped area shall be provided, on site at the street frontage, at the base of the freestanding sign, with said landscaped area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.
 - e. The maximum sign area for freestanding signs per street frontage shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet including all identification and price signs.
- 5. Menu boards, for drive-in or drive-through restaurants, in accordance with the following:

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- a. One (1) freestanding or wall mounted menu board per business located not less than forty-five (45) feet from the street property line.
- b. Maximum area shall not exceed twenty (20) square feet and shall be counted in the total aggregate sign area of the premises.
- c. Maximum sign height shall not exceed five (5) feet for freestanding menu signs.
- d. A landscaped area shall be provided, at the base of the free-standing sign with said landscaped area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.

E. L-1, L-2 and L-3 Zoning Districts.

1. There shall be no signage on any lot or parcel within the L-1, L-2 or L-3 Zoning District, except for one (1) freestanding identification sign, regardless of the number of primary or accessory uses on the lot or parcel.
 - a. Such sign shall have a maximum area of twenty-four (24) square feet.
 - b. Such sign shall have a maximum height of five (5) feet.
 - c. Such sign, if over 3.5 feet in height, shall not be permitted within the front or street side-yard setback.
 - d. Such sign shall not be internally illuminated.
 - e. A landscaped area shall be provided at the base of the freestanding sign, having a minimum landscaped area of four (4) square feet for each square foot of sign area.

F. Permanent Off-Premise Signs

Permanent off-premise signs may be administratively approved if all of the following criteria are met. Permanent off-premise signs:

1. Shall be permitted only in non-residential zoning districts having a zero-foot front or street side-yard setback.
2. Shall only be permitted if signs are affixed to a building and extend over the abutting Town right-of-way line.
3. Shall only hang over the abutting Town right-of-way line a distance not more than three (3) feet.
4. Shall not be more than three (3.5) feet wide nor more than six (6) feet high.
5. Shall not be closer than 25 feet to another sign developed under these regulations, whether or not they are on the same lot or parcel.

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6. Shall be counted toward the maximum aggregate total area of signs for the site.
7. Shall be located so that the bottom of the sign is not less than eight (8) feet from the ground.
8. Shall not be internally lighted.
9. Shall be limited to not more than two signs per lot or parcel and not more than one sign per business.
10. Shall be permitted by both a Town sign permit and a revocable Town encroachment permit.

(00-07, Amended, 11/17/2000; Manual, Amended, 03/28/2000)

Section 6.08 Temporary Signs

- A. Sale, Lease, or Rent Signs.** Signs advertising the sale, leasing or renting of a building, dwelling, suite, property, or other forms of real estate shall conform to the following regulations and are exempted from the total aggregate sign area.
 1. **Non-residential Zoning Districts.** Non-illuminated and not exceeding six (6) square feet in aggregate area and eight (8) feet in maximum height. Signs must be professionally made.
 2. **Residential Zoning Districts.** Non-illuminated and not exceeding four (4) square feet in total aggregate area and five (5) feet in maximum height. Signs must be professionally made.
- B. Future Development Signs.** Signs announcing the proposed development of property prior to issuance of a building permit for the purpose of displaying the name of the project, contractors, architect and any additional information pertaining to the site on which the signs are located are allowed in accordance with the following:
 1. Maximum sign area shall not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
 2. Such signs shall not be illuminated.
 3. Such signs may be double faced.
 4. One freestanding sign per each street on which the development has frontage.
 5. Maximum height shall not exceed five (5) feet for all such signs.
 6. Such signs may be maintained for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months prior to obtaining building permits for a development and must be removed upon issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.
 7. A sign permit must be obtained before a future development sign is located on the site.

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C. Banners, Pennants and Displays for Grand Openings.

1. Banners, pennants, and other displays shall be allowed on a one time basis for a maximum of fourteen (14) consecutive days during the grand opening of a business.
2. A grand opening permit must be obtained prior to the installation of any grand opening banners, pennants, balloons, or other displays.
3. Displays shall be limited to:
 - a. One four (4) foot by eight (8) foot banner for each street on which the business has frontage.
 - b. Banners, pennants and displays shall be located on the business premises.
 - c. Balloons shall be tethered so as not to exceed the maximum building height for the zoning district in which the business is located, and shall not occupy any required parking space.
 - d. Balloons shall not be designed to depicted any product not legally available to all residents of the Town.
 - e. Total sign area including permanent signs shall not exceed 200% of the permitted sign area.

D. Flags.

1. United States, state, and corporate flags for registered corporations or flags of foreign nations.
 - a. Only one of each type of flag mentioned above with a maximum of three (3) flags on any one site or structure shall be allowed.
 - b. Any flag flown in conjunction with the U.S. and/or State of Arizona flag must be flown beneath them and must not exceed them in size.
 - c. The maximum size of any corporate flag shall not exceed fifteen (15) square feet. No one dimension to exceed six (6) feet in any direction.
 - d. Flags shall not include any advertising copy and will not be signage nor be included in the calculation of total aggregate signage.
 - e. A permit is required to display any corporate flag.
 - f. Corporate flags shall be permitted in the C-C, C-1, C-2, C-3, IND-1, IND-2 Zoning Districts only.

2. Model Home Flags.

A model home that has a special use permit may use flags in addition to the

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United States of America flag and the State of Arizona flag, in the following manner:

- a. **Number.** No more than two (2) flags on the lot of one (1) model home and one (1) flag on each additional lot with a model home located upon it, up to a total of four lots of model homes.
- b. **Size.** Model home flags shall not exceed eight (8) square feet in size.
- c. **Height.** Flagpoles shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet in height.
- d. **Illumination.** Model home flags shall not be illuminated.

E. Off-Premise Signs.

1. Location.

- a. Off-premise non-directional signs are not permitted anywhere within the Town, except as may be permitted under subsection G of this document.
- b. Except as prohibited in Section 8.08.E.1.d and e., off-premise directional signs shall be located only in accordance with the standards set forth in this section.
- c. Off-premise directional signs shall be placed no less than three (3) feet behind the curb. If no curb is present, signs shall be located at least ten (10) feet from the edge of the paved portion of the public right-of-way. No off-premise directional signs are allowed on sidewalks or within the center medians that divide portions of paved or unpaved roadways.
- d. Off-premise directional signs shall not be affected by the zoning classification of property adjacent to the public roadway.
- e. No off-premise directional sign shall be permitted within the Shea Boulevard public right-of-way.
- f. No off-premise sign shall be located within 150 linear feet from any traffic control light anywhere within the Town of Fountain Hills.

2. **Spacing.** No off-premise directional sign shall be located within 300 linear feet along the same roadway, as measured along the public right-of-way line(s) of another sign bearing the same or substantially the same message.

3. Proximity.

- a. No off-premise directional sign containing a directional arrow or directional information shall be located more than one mile, as measured along the public street right-of-way lines, of the destination to which such sign is directing traffic.
- b. Political and ideological signs containing no commercial messages have

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no proximity requirements as specified in this subsection.

4. **Number.**

- a. There shall not be more than five (5) off-premise directional signs to any one destination.
- b. In master planned developments with multiple subdivisions having model home complexes, each model home complex is considered a single destination and shall have no more than five (5) off-premise directional signs.
- c. The Town Council may grant permission to place more than five (5) off-premise directional signs for an event when specifically requested with the special event request.

5. **Time.** Off-premise directional signs shall be placed in the permitted areas of public right-of-way only between sunrise and sunset. Signs remaining in public rights-of-way after sunset, or placed in rights-of-way prior to sunrise, shall be subject to confiscation and destruction by the Town.

6. **Size.** Off-premise directional signs, unless exempted pursuant to subsection G of this section, shall not exceed 4.5 square feet.

7. **Height.** Off-premise directional signs, unless exempted pursuant to subsection G of this section, shall not exceed three (3) feet in height measured from the highest most point of the sign to the grade at the base of the sign.

8. **Materials.** Off-premise directional signs may only be constructed of wrought iron; sheet metal; one-eighth (1/8) inch thick plastic; or of wood that is at least three-eighths of an inch (3/8") thick.

9. **Penalty.** The provisions of subsection E set forth above are declared to be civil in nature and not subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to other provisions of the zoning code. It is presumed that the business or residence identified on the sign is the responsible party for compliance with the provisions of subsection E. Violations of section E shall be made through the use of a civil complaint form and fines after a determination of violation shall be as follows:

- a. First offense, fine not to exceed \$25.00.
- b. Second offense within 12 calendar months, fine not to exceed \$50.00
- c. Third offense within 12 calendar months of the first offense, fine not to exceed \$100.00.
- d. All subsequent violations within 12 calendar months of the first offence, a fine not to exceed \$150.00.

F. Contractor Signs. A sign for a contractor may be placed on a construction site within the

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following parameters:

1. **Number.** There shall be only one (1) sign per lot.
2. **Size.** Such a sign shall not exceed eight (8) square feet.
3. **Height.** A contractor sign shall not exceed five (5) feet in height.
4. **Location.** Such a sign must be located on the construction site.
5. **Illumination.** A contractor sign shall not be illuminated.
6. **Time.** A contractor sign may be placed only during the period of time when a building permit is valid and must be removed no later than the final inspection.

G. Temporary Off-Site Directional Signs for Special Events.

1. A sign placement plan detailing the size, location, and timing, of proposed signs to be used for a special event shall be presented with the special event permit application.
2. The regulations in this chapter may be waived by the Town Council for special event signs placement, size, and timing.
3. These signs shall be placed only after a Special Event Permit has been issued by the Town Council and must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after the conclusion of the event.

Section 6.09 On-site Subdivision Advertising Signs.

- A. **Permit.** A Special Use Permit is required to place sign(s) advertising a subdivision in a residential zone.
- B. **Size.** No sign shall exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in size.
- C. **Height.** No sign shall exceed five (5) feet in height.
- D. **Time Limit.** The length of time one-site subdivision advertising signs may be permitted may be determined by the Town Council. If no time limit is established, all such signs shall be removed upon the completion of the initial sale of the houses or lots of the subject subdivision.

Section 6.10 Model Home Advertising Signs.

Through the Temporary Use Permit process required for model homes, the following parameters for signs must be followed:

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- A. **Size.** No sign shall exceed twenty-four (24) square feet.
- B. **Height.** No sign shall exceed five (5) feet in height.
- C. **Time.** The Town Council, through the Temporary Use Permit process, may establish a time limit for the operation of a model home.
- D. **Illumination.** Model home signs shall not be illuminated.

Section 6.11 Political and Ideological Signs.

- A. A political sign is a sign which expresses a position; conveys a message concerning, or advocates a position on the candidacy of a person, party, or issue on an upcoming ballot.
- B. An ideological sign is a sign which expresses, conveys, or advocates a non-commercial message.
- C. Political and ideological signs located in non-residential zoning districts shall be treated as commercial signs and shall be governed by the sign regulations applicable to the respective zoning district where sign is being located. The combination of commercial, political, and ideological signs shall not exceed the square footage limitations of the respective sign regulations prescribed in this code.
- D. In addition to signs already permitted in residential zoning districts, political and ideological signs may be located in such areas within the following parameters:
 - 1. Shall not be over four and one half (4 1/2) feet in height.
 - 2. Shall not exceed six (6) feet in length.
 - 3. The aggregate square foot of such signs shall not exceed twenty-four (24) feet on any lot or parcel.
 - 4. Except as otherwise, permitted in this ordinance, no such sign or portion of the sign may be located in or project into a public right-of-way.
 - 5. Political signs in residentially zoned areas shall be erected not more than sixty days prior to the election or referendum on the ballot and shall be removed within ten (10) days after said election or referendum. Candidates successful in a primary election, and must be elected in a general election that is to be held more than sixty (60) days after primary election, are permitted to leave their respective political signs in place until ten (10) days after the general election, or if necessary, run-off election.

Section 6.12 Sign Permits; Fees.

- A. It shall be unlawful to erect, install and/or modify any sign within the Town without first applying for and obtaining a Sign Permit from the Department of Community

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Development. "Modify," as it is used herein, shall mean any change in or to an existing sign, its face, electrical components, design and/or supporting structures. Temporary off-premise signs authorized in Section 6.08.E. of this Chapter are exempt from the sign permit and fee requirements of this section

- B. Failure to conform to the conditions of a sign permit, including any conditions and/or stipulations attached thereto by the Town Council and/or Board of Adjustment shall render such permit void.
- C. Fees for sign permits shall be required and payable in such sums as the Town Council may from time to time establish by resolution.
- D. A sign permit does not include electrical work; however, this exemption shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in violation of the provisions of the Fountain Hills Town Code or any other laws or ordinances.

Date of Revision/Additions - Chapter 6

- *¹ Revised 08/04/94
- *² Revised 03/02/95
- *³ Revised 08/03/95
- *⁴ Revised 08/03/95
- *⁵ Revised 10/05/95
- *⁶ Revised 10/05/95
- *⁷ Revised 10/05/95
- *⁸ Revised 12/21/95
- *⁹ Revised 05/16/96
- *¹⁰ Revised 08/01/96
- *¹¹ Revised 05/01/97
- *¹² Revised 12/18/97
- *¹³ Revised 02/19/98
- *¹⁴ Revised 04/16/98
- *¹⁵ Revised 05/01-03